

Wm Austin

St. Louis, Mo.,
Aug. 1, 1841.

Dear Sir,

Very kind of you.

I beg to say, & supplement of your kind
words cause I express my gratitude to you for
the great honor, & stand almost in awe
& fear they are bestowed upon whose future is
doomed to disappointment, I will try and
overcome obstacles, I have labored almost in-
cessantly since our earliest flowers bloomed. I wish
you had my collection for the use of the Cal-
ifornia Herbarium, & with your permission, will send
you numbered specimens of all, not for your
use, but if you should desire more specim-
ens of any species, I may know what to look
for.

I went on a short excursion for them
yesterday, & found several plants - new to

me, & also the "ful" (the idea being
Sarcodon p. latius? which I have not found
before in - but. It is the same, I think, as
those I saw growing in the south years ago.
Dr. Gray, as I did not keep duplicates of
the first plants I sent you, only the few &
numbered, and I have two with white
bulbs & a number of white flowers, that
are very nearly alike, I do not know to
which one you refer, nor do I remember
if I sent you both kinds. Schoenolirion
abundans. I will send you flowering & fruit-
ing specimens of both kinds, if I am
not too late for the fruit, I go tomorrow
to see, and to get better fruiting speci-
mens of Sarcodon Davisae.

The new orchidaceous plant has no real
leaves & certainly no green ones.
This year I saw it when first coming
through the ground, flower stalk first
and of a pure white, reminding me of
the manner of growth of Sarcodon sin-
guinae; I saw it two other times, when

growing. It was white as it
leaves - only scales. The larger spec-
imen which I sent you was an entire
plant, with a part of the root
knave off in digging. It was under
the same large mushroom, in very dry &
hard yellow clay. I have found it
only the one place.

It is too late for the fruit of
the Sarcodon this year.

Accept the sincere gratitude of your
grateful friend, & pardon if I have
unnecessarily intruded upon your
valuable time.

Dr. W. Austin,